

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the Sequence Listing filed on October 1, 2004, with the attached Substitute Sequence Listing at page 56 (Abstract), after the last line, on a new page.

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1, between lines 4 and 5:

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

This application claims the benefit to priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) to JP 2003-106709, filed April 10, 2003.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 12 as follows:

Protease has long been used in industry, and has found utility in a diversity of fields, including detergents such as laundry detergents, fiber modifying agents, leather processing agents, cosmetic compositions, bath additives, food-modifying agents, and pharmaceuticals. Of these, proteases for detergent use are produced in the largest amounts on an industrial scale. Examples of such known proteases that are derived from *Bacillus* include ~~Alcalase~~, ~~Savinase~~ ALCALASE, SAVINASE (registered trademarks; Novozymes), ~~Maxacal~~ MAXACAL (registered trademark; Genencor), ~~Blap~~ BLAP (registered trademark; Henkel), and KAP (Kao Corporation).

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 11 as follows:

~~FIG. 1~~ Fig. 1-1 to Fig. 1-5 shows amino acid sequence alignment of protease having 80% or higher homology with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 22 as follows:

The detergent composition of the present invention may further contain a variety of enzymes in addition to the protease of the present invention. Examples of such additional enzymes include hydrolase, oxidase, reductase, transferase, lyase, isomerase, ligase, and synthetase. Of these, preferred enzymes include proteases other than those of the present invention, cellulase, keratinase, esterase, cutinase, amylase, lipase, pullulanase, pectinase, mannanase, glucosidase, glucanase, cholesteroloxidase, peroxidase, and laccase, among which the proteases, cellulase, amylase, and lipase are more preferred. Examples of the proteases include commercially available ones that are derived from *Bacillus*, such as ~~Alcalase, Esperase, Savinase, Everlase, and Kannase~~ ALCALASE, ESPERASE, SAVINASE, EVERLASE, and KANNASE (all are ~~resistered~~ registered trademarks; Novozymes), ~~Properase and Purafect~~ PROPERASE and PURAFECT (~~resistered~~ registered trademarks; Genencor); and KAP (Kao Corp.). Examples of cellulase include those derived from *Humicola* such as Celluzyme and Carezyme CELLUZYME and CAREZYME (~~resistered~~ registered trademarks; Novozymes); and KAC, alkaline cellulase produced by *Bacillus* sp. KSM-S237 disclosed in Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open (*kokai*) No. 10-313859, and mutated alkaline cellulase disclosed in Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open (*kokai*) No. 2003-313592 (these are products of Kao Corp.). Examples of amylase include those derived from *Bacillus* such as ~~Termamyl and Duramyl~~ TERMAMYL and DURAMYL (registered trademarks; Novozymes), ~~Purastar~~ PURASTAR (registered trademark; Genencor), and KAM (Kao Corp.). Examples of lipase are those derived from *Thermomyces* and include ~~Lipolase and Lipolase Ultra~~ LIPOLASE and LIPOLASE ULTRA (registered trademarks; Novozymes).

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 7 as follows:

A portion of the culture was diluted, and the diluted portion was applied to a ~~DEAE-Toyopearl~~ DEAE-TOYOPEARL (an anion-exchange gell for ion-exchange chromatography manufactured by Tosoh) equilibrated with 10-mM Tris-HCl buffer containing 2-mM CaCl₂ (pH of the buffer system: 7.5). A non-adsorbed fraction was recovered, whereby substantially homogeneous protease was obtained. Protein amount and casein degradation activity were measured for each purified enzyme. The measurements show that improvement in productivity was attained by the mutations introduced, which led to an improved amount of secreted protein (102 to 108%) or an improved specific activity (104 to 121%), on the basis of the secretion amount or the specific activity of a wild type enzyme being taken as 100% (Table 2).

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 31, line 27 as follows:

Fluorescent dye: ~~Tinopal CBS-X~~ TINOPAL CBS-X (a DSBP-type Fluorescent Whitening Agent which is a product of Ciba-Geigy Corp.)

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 33, line 4 as follows:

Nonionic surfactant: ~~Emulgen-108KM~~ Emulgen 108KM (average mole number of ethylene oxide added: 8.5, product of Kao Corporation)

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 33, line 24 as follows:

Fluorescent dye: ~~Tinopal CBS-X~~ TINOPAL CBS-X (a DSBP-type Fluorescent Whitening Agent which is product of Ciba-Geigy Corp.)

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 31, line 27 as follows:

Fluorescent dye: ~~Tinopal CBS-X~~ TINOPAL CBS-X (a DSBP-type Fluorescent Whitening Agent which is product of Ciba-Geigy Corp.)

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 34, line 1 as follows:

1) Polyoxyethylene (average mole number added: 7) alkyl ether having an alkyl group, derived from a C12-C14 secondary alcohol (~~Softanol 70~~ SOFTANOL 70, product of Nippon Shokubai Kagaku Kogyo)

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 34, line 5 as follows:

2) Polyoxyethylene (average mole number added: 12) alkyl ether having an alkyl group, derived from a C12-C14 secondary alcohol (~~Softanol 120~~ SOFTANOL 120, product of Nippon Shokubai Kagaku Kogyo)

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 40, line 11 as follows:

3) KAC-500 (registered trademark; a cellulase derived from Humicola which is a product of Kao Corporation)

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 40, line 12 as follows:

4) ~~Lipolase 100T~~ LIPOLASE 100T (registered trademark; a lipase derived from Thermomyces which is a product of Novozymes)

Please delete the original Abstract and insert therefor the attached substitute Abstract at page 55, after the last line, on a new page as new page 56.